

Williams Property

Siegtown Road Middle Township Cape May County

BLOCK: 99.02 LOT: 3

Community Relations Coordinator: Heather Swartz (609) 984-7135

SITE DESCRIPTION/RESOLUTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS:

The Williams Property is a wooded lot situated in a mixed residential/rural area. It is located less than three miles southeast of the Timber Beaver Swamp Fish and Wildlife Management Area, a major aquifer recharge zone, and is bordered by prime wetlands habitats. An NJDEP inspection in 1979 revealed that 200 to 300 drums of hazardous materials had been drained onto the soil and evidence that tank trailers had discharged liquid wastes at the site. The contamination posed a threat to the underlying Holly Beach Aquifer and deeper Cohansey Aquifer, both of which are used as potable water supplies. NJDEP excavated and disposed of 1,200 cubic yards of sludge and contaminated soil and removed surface debris in 1980. USEPA added the Williams Property to the National Priorities List of Superfund sites (NPL) in 1983. Between 1985 and 1987, NJDEP conducted a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) to determine the nature and extent of the contamination in the soil and ground water and evaluate cleanup alternatives. The RI/FS revealed that contaminated soil still remained at the property and a plume of contaminated ground water was migrating off site. USEPA issued a Record of Decision (ROD) with NJDEP concurrence in 1987 that required removal of the contaminated soil, installation of a remediation system to extract and treat the contaminated ground water, and extension of public water lines to nearby residences with private potable wells. Middle Township extended public water lines to nearby residences using funds provided by NJDEP. USEPA excavated and disposed of approximately 960 cubic yards of contaminated soil, backfilled the excavation and revegetated the site between 1990 and 1991. NJDEP completed construction of the ground water remediation system in 1995. More than 210 million gallons of contaminated ground water have been extracted, treated and reinjected on site since the system was installed. Recent sampling has shown that contaminants in the ground water have decreased to levels close to New Jersey Drinking Water Standards. In September 2002, USEPA agreed to a temporary treatment termination plan proposed by NJDEP. Under this plan, treatment will be terminated for four months and the ground water monitored. If contamination levels rebound, the ground water treatment system will be restarted.